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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: November 2, 2001

TO: Examiner B. Huynh
FACSIMILE NO: 703-746-7240
RE: Proposed Interview Agenda for U.S. Application No. 09/107,110
OUR REFERENCE: MSFT-1-17211
FROM: Adam L.K. Philipp

Official



(Facsimile No. 206.224.0779)

MESSAGE: Due to a routing error this was held up for faxing until today. If more time is needed for review please contact the applicants' attorney.

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JLJ

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jon R. Berry et al. Attorney Docket No.: MSFT117211
Application No.: 09/107,110 Group Art Unit: 2173
Filed: June 30, 1998 Examiner: B. Huynh
Title: COMPUTER OPERATING SYSTEM THAT DEFINES DEFAULT DOCUMENT FOLDER FOR APPLICATION PROGRAM

PROPOSED INTERVIEW AGENDA

Seattle, Washington 98101

November 2, 2001

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

The applicants wish to thank the Examiner for agreeing to schedule a telephonic interview on November 7, 2001, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Accordingly, as requested, the applicants enclose a proposed interview agenda. The agenda addresses in outline form the issues found regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) rejections of the independent claims in the present application. The dependent claims can be addressed as necessary during the telephonic interview.

Claim 1

A. Claim 1 reads in part "file-operation dialog boxes...defined... to specify a file container". As can be seen from this portion of Claim 1, it is clear that the file container that is a default document container is specified by the file-operations dialog box. The most recently used documents list of the Simpson reference is not specified by any file-operations dialog boxes.

B. The file container associated with the predetermined file container icon as a default document container contains documents. The most recently used document list is merely a listing of pointers to shortcut files that in turn may or may not point to documents and still further, it is a container only in the sense that a freeway is a container of cars. During a traffic jam it may appear relatively static, but under constant use one could hardly say that the freeway is a car "container", as its purpose is mainly to pass cars through, similar to the most recently used list, is merely there to present a list of most recently used documents, not as a place to contain documents.

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C. The Simpson reference teaches that the most recently used document list only works with registered programs. There is no such limitation in Claim 1. Any document using a file-operations dialog box, whether registered with the operating system or not, may use the default document container. Such is not the case with the most recently used documents list.

not claim

Claims 6, 13 and 14

Again, the most recently used documents list as noted above is not displayed in file-operation dialog boxes. Accordingly, there can hardly be a teaching of an operating system which defines the predetermined file storage container as a default file storage container on file-operation dialog windows as recited in Claims 6, 13 and 14.

*Save as " dialog
is accessible
by application*

Claims 12 and 25

The Simpson reference fails to teach at least four of the elements of Claims 12 and 25, namely: there is no teaching of a determination whether one of the applications has specified a folder for storing files related to the one application. Additionally, there is no teaching of determining whether the one application has redirected file storage from the folder specified by the one application to a current folder. Further, there is no teaching of a determination whether files within the current folder are of one or more particular types. And finally, as mentioned above, there is no teaching of a default folder for storing files related to the one application. It would be sufficient to overcome the Simpson reference if only one of those were missing, but as all four elements are missing leaving aside any additional elements, Simpson hardly teaches the inventions claimed in Claims 12 or 25.

Claims 15 and 27

Again, as noted above, the documents most recently used list is not a file storage folder as would be understood by anyone of ordinary skill in the art. The documents most recently used list is merely a listing of file names shortcut files and the documents most recently used list merely as a listing of names and locations of the shortcut files in a separate folder, which is itself a hidden system folder. One of ordinary skill in the art would not view a list of names of documents used as a file storage folder; it is what it seems, merely a list. Additionally, one would hardly consider a hidden system folder as the default file storage folder if one were to consider the hidden system folder that stores the shortcuts, e.g., pointers to the actual documents.

Claim 19

The Simpson reference has no teaching of folders in a most recently used documents list. In fact, under Windows 95 documents could not be included in the most recently used documents list as it was merely a list of documents from registered programs that had been opened, viewed, or edited by registered application. As noted in the specification of the present application, the addition of folders to the most recently used document list was to enable a user to access the default file storage container from the most recently used documents list.

Claim 21

The Simpson reference provides no teaching of a file operations window that includes a link to a desktop that provides access to a predetermined file storage container. Again, a reading of the specification of the present application will indicate that providing this link was a feature to more easily allow a user to access the default document folder. Simpson provides no similar easy access feature as described with regard to the present invention.

Applicants again wish to thank the Examiner for agreeing to discuss this matter further on November 7, 2001. Should any questions arise beforehand, the Examiner is encouraged to call the applicants' representative at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the below date.

Date: _____
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